

Federation of European & international Associations based in Belgium

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FAIB News distribution, DIGEST and FLASH FAIB (Reminder)

FAIB NEWS: The full version, both, printed and electronic, is available only to FAIB Members. Access to the electronic version is granted through their personal password. For detailed information contact faib@faib.org.

FAIB DIGEST is a summary of the FAIB News. It is distributed to non-member international associations in Belgium and posted on the homepage of the FAIB website. It keeps non-members updated on the FAIB activities

FAIB FLASH informs or consults FAIB members, in between two editions of the FAIB News, about latest developments on relevant enquiries from third parties.

Join our membership! For additional details, call Barbara Panacci +32 2 641 11 95 or faib@faib.org.

Editorial :

Reflexions on the impact of the CETA treaty and the future TTIP treaty By Daniel Van Espen, The FAIB President considers that those treaties might have a negative impact on developing countries. Their standards and liberalization principles will be imposed on other nations thereby avoiding the multinational framework of the WTO. The on-line reading of the TTIP negotiating texts allows proposing some useful ideas. It is essential to undertake a thorough social and environmental cost/benefit analysis, to verify that TTIP contributes to the well-being of all citizens. Certain principles must be applied to evaluate any proposed trade deal: precaution that no harm is caused to future generations, no natural ecology is at risk; the relief of the crushing burden of external debt of poor countries; the labour protection and the democratic participation in the negotiation.

Calendar of events

- **Lunch Debates:** (12.00-13.00: sandwich-lunch; 13.00-14.30: presentation and Q/A)

26.1.2017 : FAIB New Year Reception : confirmed key speaker and details/schedule will follow by mail

16.2.2017 : Digital transformation and the importance of language technologies, by P. Van Den Steene, Presence Group

27.4.2017 : Organization of the management and delegation of powers, by A. Druetz, Partner Koan Law

- **Study Tours, taylor-made / accessible** to FAIB members: Others under preparation will be announced as soon as information becomes available

18-19 January 2017: Conventa Ljubjana – 8th Edition <http://www.conventa.si/>

8-9 February 2017: Convene Vilnius (Mice industry in Baltic Sea Region) - <http://www.convene.lt/>

FAIB New members: we are pleased to welcome the following associations:

- **European Association of Machine tools Merchants aisbl** www.eamtm.com
- **European Community Psychology Association aisbl** www.ecpa-online.eu
- **European Language Industry Association aisbl** www.elia-association.org
- **European Foundation for Alcohol Research** www.erab.org
- **Forrestière asbl** recherche et thérapie dans le domaine de la famille et des groupements www.forrestiere.be
- **Irish in Europe Association aisbl** www.irishineurope.org
- **Wine in Moderation aisbl** The wine sector et l'art de vivre www.wineinmoderation.com

News from FAIB sponsors

- **Cambre Associates** has released the second edition of **#DigitalAssociations**, an ongoing research project that looks into how almost 600 European industry groups use social media. Take a look at the full report on www.cambre-associates.com and join the conversation using **#DigitalAssociations**.
- The agreement granting FAIB members a discount on **SN Brussels** flights has been renewed as of 1.01.2017.

Lunch Debates

18 October 2016: Info-debate on Brexit for Associations (FAIB & the Association Leadership Academy), by a panel of experts and moderated by Rachel Barlow

Four months after the unexpected "Leave" decision of a majority of UK citizens, Brexit remains a concern full of uncertain times ahead. The objective of the forum was to stimulate an exchange of views from three diverse but directly relevant perspectives: politics, business and associations. On a long and tortuous road with long term consequences, the debate clarified the challenges and presented opportunities to influence the outcome.

More from faib@faib.org and from: www.associationleadership.eu

20 October 2016: Sick-leave of employees: rights & obligations / Update on Labour Law/ Practical aspects of a mutuality by H. THIBAUT, International Affairs Manager Group S) and C. PEETERS, Consultant Symbio,

both sponsors of the FAIB that can provide the presentations (www.faib.org).

The subject is complex and the matter takes a good 60 pages on the Group S website! The devil is in the details and indeed, participants raised quite a few pertinent questions, illustrating their interest.

More: www.groups.be

Christophe Peeters focused on the role of a **mutuality**, reminding that Symbio offers basic compulsory health coverage as well as optional services such as hospitalization, dental insurance ...

More: www.symbio.be

7 November 2016: Evidence-based Advocacy - recommendations to make the best use of data by F. Anton, Corporate and Digital Communications Director at Cambre Associates, FAIB sponsor.

Good communication generated by the right data was summed up in five takeaways: find the right balance between evidence and emotion; let evidence guide your strategy; facts and figures help generating good content; be creative and use technology; tracking performance is crucial to assess if an advocacy strategy is working or not. New technologies are the key of successful advocacy campaigns.

More: fsaouli@cambre-associates.com

15 December 2016 Year Review: Developments in legislation / regulations impacting associations in 2016.

By Bird and Bird, FAIB associate member. Speakers: **Anton Aerts** (employment associate), **Brent Springael** (tax partner), **Cedric Berckmans** (corporate associate), **Scott McInnes** (competition partner). **Bruno Vandermeulen** (IP partner).

A summary of this important (and heavy!) lunch debate will be soon available.

The law of the Future: implications for INPAs: by Alain Costantini and Julie Salteur, Dear, Krzewinski & Willez.

Minister of Justice Koen Geens aims at deeply modernizing various legislations that will imply important changes for INPAs. Two of them are of note. First, the concept of "merchant" will be replaced by the concept of "enterprise", resulting in a broader scope for the bankruptcy procedure. Second, the differences between activities that can be carried out by companies and by associations will be removed; meaning that not for profit associations could carry out "commercial" activities without restrictions. The standardization of the (currently not existing) definition of enterprise would ensure legal certainty over time. However, it can be expected that this definition will be inspired by the existing ones so that the decisive criterion would be based on the distribution of profit to shareholders. The Minister intends to merge the Companies Code and the Act of 27 June 1921. A serious issue to follow by all of us.

FAIB Activities and other news

Working Rules/ Règlement de travail/ Arbeidsreglement: FAIB and Group S have developed a template "Working Rules" for INPA employees, available to FAIB members upon request: faib@faib.org

FAIB switches to "Mailchimp": as from January 2017 in order to secure safer electronic mass mailing. Please make sure you have reconfirmed your interest in receiving our email messages. If not, please go to: <http://faib.us.13.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=81e0b54b3c25e3e49915c411d&id=875be34027> or advise faib@faib.org.

After Brexit & Trump: Europe in Crisis and the world On 13 December Stella Sauvan attended the conference organized by the Centre International de Formation Européen at the Brussels University Foundation, and presented by Prof. Mario Telò on the occasion of his latest book.

More: contact sauvan@faib.org

The seven pitfalls in your articles of association and their consequences: by Antoine Druetz, Partner / FAIB associate member, Alix Degrez and Evelyne Kerkdijk, associates at the law firm Koan.

This is the first part of an article drawing attention on frequent inaccuracies / omissions by INPAs in setting their articles of associations and operating rules. They are due to the basic flexibility of the law and to the difficulty often encountered by founding members to grasp all practical aspects of efficiently operating an INPA. Solving problems afterwards will be a real challenge!

FAIB Study Missions

MICE South Europe in Rome, 13 - 15.11.2016 Face to face meeting with MICE suppliers from the Mediterranean Countries and an opportunity of networking and learning from educational sessions. www.europecongress.com